HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) A National Filaria Control Programme (NFCP) is already in operation in the country since 1955. Although, operations under the programme have been limited to urban areas, it has been extended to rural areas also since 1994 for management of cases through primary health centres. In urban areas, 206 Filaria Control Units, 199 Filaria clinics and 26 survey units have been in operation for control of disease. The steps taken for control of filariasis include:—

— recurrent anti-larval measures;

— using larvicides in the mosquito breeding places;

— anti-parasitic measures by detection of micro-filaria carrier and treatment with diethyl carbamazine (DEC);

— IEC activities for public awareness;

— Management of acute and chronic filariasis through referral services;

— Biological control of mosquito breeding through biological agents specially larvivorous fishes;

Further, NFCP has initiated a project in 1997 with single dose annual mass drug therapy in 13 identified districts 7 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

**Non-expert DDG (TB)**

3075. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DDG (TB) is not an expert on Tuberculosis; and

(b) if so, why he has been kept as DDG (TB) for so long, inspite of corruption cases against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) DDG

(TB) is an expert in Public Health/Community Medicine. He has rich experience in management of National Health Programmes. He has been Programme Manager of National TB Control Programme since July, 1996. He has also been international consultant on TB Control. In recognition of his outstanding merit in the field of Tuberculosis he has recently been awarded the "Public Health, Karel Styblo Prize" by International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases for year 2000.

(b) Does not arise. There are no corruption cases against DDG (TB).

**Assistance to NGOs for Family Welfare Programmes**

3076. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any sponsored schemes have been undertaken to provide assistance to voluntary organizations in the field of family welfare and primary health service during the current year; and

(b) the details regarding the extent of assistance provided to voluntary organizations during the first three years of the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme, there is provision for providing assistance to voluntary organisations in the field of family welfare and primary health services Details are given in the Annexure indicating the assistance provided to voluntary organisations during the first three years of the Ninth Five Year Plan. [*See* Appendix 192, Annexure No. 21]

**Registration of M.D. Physicians of CIS Countries**

3077. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether MCI had taken various arbitrary decisions regarding grant of registration to M.D. Physicians passed/passing from countries of Commonwealth of Independent States;